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FLOOR DEBATE

March 13, 2002      LB 1003, 1168

SENATOR SCHROCK: That is...that was never in the bill. It was an attempt by Senator Beutler to amend it into the bill. It is not in the current bill as we are proposing to advance it.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Further debate on the advancement of the bill? Senator Schrock, you're recognized to close on advancement. He waives that opportunity. The question before the body is the advancement of LB 1003. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Record.

CLERK: 34 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 1003.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: LB 1003 advances. We next move to LB 1168. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 1168, a bill introduced by the Business and Labor Committee and signed by its membership. (Read title.) It was introduced on January 17 of this year; referred to the Business and Labor Committee; advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments, Mr. President.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Connealy, you're recognized to open on the bill.

SENATOR CONNEALY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members. LB 1168 is a bill that resulted from a...it's really a two-session long discussion regarding the railroad employees and railroad safety. You're all aware that the Business and Labor Committee has looked at different areas as it relates to tired and employees at the railroads and how we address that in the light of federal law and collective bargaining. One thing through all the discussions that all the parties agreed to, that safety was of the highest priority. All agreed that fatigue of certain railroad workers is a definite concern and one that needs to continually be addressed. Because of that common ground, the Business and Labor Committee introduced a bill that would create the Fatigue Counter-Measure Task Force, a simple concept that with the cooperation between all interested parties, maybe we